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THE CARBONELL AWARDS
SOUTH FLORIDA'S THEATER & ARTS HONORS

**NOMINATIONS FOR THE 43rd ANNUAL CARBONELL AWARDS
ANNOUNCED**

**PALM BEACH DRAMAWORKS LEADS WITH
18 NOMINATIONS**

FORT LAUDERDALE, FLA --- A drama about an acting troupe performing a controversial play and a world premiere musical about life in Cuba past and present garnered the most nominations for the 43rd annual Carbonell Awards, which honor excellence in theater in South Florida. *Indecent*, produced by Palm Beach Dramaworks in West Palm Beach, earned nine nominations, and *Havana Music Hall*, produced by Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre in Coral Gables, earned seven.

Palm Beach Dramaworks shows earned 18 nominations overall, the most of any theater in the tri-county region, for its productions of the plays *Indecent*, *Equus* and *Edgar and Emily*, and the musical *Woody Guthrie's American Song*. Slow Burn Theatre Company in Fort Lauderdale earned 16 nominations, the most of any theater in Broward County. Zoetic Stage received 14 nominations, the most for any theater in Miami-Dade County. Both Slow Burn and Zoetic Stage hold the distinction of earning at least one nomination for every show the companies produced in 2018. Miami-Dade theaters earned 43 nominations, Palm Beach County 37, and Broward County 21. Nominations recognized 37 shows at theaters stretching from Coral Gables in the south to Jupiter in the north.

For the second year in a row, the nominations are being announced live from 8:30 to 10 a.m. today by [The Morning Lounge with Jill and Rich](#) on [Legends Radio 100.3FM](#) and the Carbonell Awards Facebook Live simulcast.

The awards will be bestowed at the Carbonell Awards ceremony on Monday, April 8, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. at Broward Center for the Performing Arts in Fort Lauderdale.

“South Florida’s regional theaters continue to grow and excel,” said Jody Leshinsky, president of the Carbonell Awards Board of Directors. “In 2018, 97 productions met the eligibility requirements for Carbonell Award evaluation, including more musicals than any other year. The nominees are a mix of new and veteran theater artists, first-time nominees and past winners. And the range of work, from classic plays and beloved musicals to world premieres and shows recently on Broadway, points to South Florida as a hotbed of talent and creativity with an audience hungry for all kinds of theater.”

In addition to recognizing the stars of today, the Carbonell Awards’ core mission is to award scholarships to the talent of tomorrow. Applications for the **Jack Zink Memorial Carbonell Awards Scholarships** are currently being accepted. Get full information at <http://carbonellawards.org/scholarships/> The deadline to apply is February 4.

Triple Threat

Actor Clay Cartland earned three nominations, the most of any nominee, for shows in three different counties: Best Supporting Actor for *Gloria* at GableStage; Best Actor, Musical for *The Pirates of Penzance* at The Wick Theatre; and Best Supporting Actor, Musical, for *Rock of Ages* at Slow Burn Theatre.

Double Your Pleasure

Several performers and designers earned two nominations each: lighting designer Kirk Bookman for his work on *Indecent* at Palm Beach Dramaworks and *An Inspector Calls* at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre; Patrick Fitzwater for his direction and choreography of *Memphis* at Slow Burn; Jeni Hacker as Best Supporting Actress, Musical, in *Fun Home* at Zoetic Stage and as Choreographer for *Once* at Actors’ Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre; J. Barry Lewis for his direction of *Indecent* and *Equus*, both at Palm Beach Dramaworks; scenic designer Michael McClain for his work on *Be Here Now* at Theatre Lab and *Wrongful Death and Other Circus Acts* at Zoetic Stage; playwright Michael McKeever

for his two world premieres, *Dracula* at Zoetic Stage and *Mr. Parker* at Island City Stage; Stuart Meltzer, for his direction of the play *Wrongful Death and Other Circus Acts* and the musical *Fun Home*, both at Zoetic Stage; and Margot Moreland as Best Supporting Actress for the musical *Disaster!* at Slow Burn and for the play *Mr. Parker* at Island City Stage.

All in the Family

Two married couples received nominations: Matt Stabile, artistic director of Theatre Lab, earned a nomination for his direction of the play *The Revolutionists*, while his wife Niki Fridh earned a supporting actress nod for the play *Tar Beach*, directed by Stabile. Fridh took home the Carbonell Award for Best Actress, Play, last year for *Grounded* at Thinking Cap Theatre. Michael McKeever and his husband Stuart Meltzer are also both double nominees. Three of their nominations are for productions at the company they helped co-found, Zoetic Stage, while one of McKeever's plays for Best New Work, *Mr. Parker*, premiered at Island City Stage.

Unconventional Nominations

In the Best Choreography category, two choreographers earned nominations for their work in non-musicals. Lynnette Barkley earned a nomination for the play *Indecent* at Palm Beach Dramaworks, in which music and dance play an important role in the way the story is told. Jeffrey Cason Jr. earned a nomination for his work on *God's Trombones* at M Ensemble, a show based on the poetry of James Weldon Johnson and structured as a gospel church service; Cason was also the principal dancer in the show. Glenn Rovinelli earned a nomination for Musical Direction for the play *Indecent* and was part of a trio of onstage musicians who provided the live music.

She Plays the Violin

Anna Lise Jensen, who earned a nomination for Best Actress, Musical, for *The Bridges of Madison County* at Slow Burn, also served as a musician in two other nominated shows, showing her prowess on the violin in *Indecent* at Palm Beach Dramaworks and *Once* at Actors' Playhouse.

The Broadway Connection

Miami lawyer and playwright Christopher Demos-Brown, who is nominated in the Best New Work category for his play *Wrongful Death and Other Circus Acts* at Zoetic Stage, made his Broadway debut in November with his play *American Son*, starring Kerry Washington and Steven Pasquale. The Broadway limited engagement runs through January 27.

The Carbonell Awards is a not-for-profit organization funded by tax-deductible donations and award sponsorships. Opportunities to sponsor an award category and to appear on stage to announce the winner are still available. Email carbonellhotline@gmail.com for more information.

The Carbonell Awards ceremony will take place **Monday, April 8 at 7:30 p.m.** in the **Amaturo Theater at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts**, 201 S.W. Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Tickets for nominees and groups will be available starting January 22, with order forms due by March 4. Visit CarbonellAwards.org and click the TICKETS link for full details. All group and nominee tickets are priced at \$27, which includes a service fee. Individual tickets go on sale to the public March 8 and can be purchased at the Broward Center's Box Office by calling 954-462-0222 or visiting www.browardcenter.org. Day-of-show tickets will be \$37, which includes a service fee, at box office windows only.

A complete list of the 2018 Carbonell Award nominations and a breakdown of nominations by county, theater and production follows.

Carbonell Awards Nominations, 2018

Best New Work (play or musical)

Dan Clancy, *At Home*, West Boca Theatre Company

Christopher Demos-Brown, *Wrongful Death and Other Circus Acts*, Zoetic Stage

Michael McKeever, *Dracula*, Zoetic Stage

Michael McKeever, *Mr. Parker*, Island City Stage

Joseph McDonough, *Edgar & Emily*, Palm Beach Dramaworks

Best Production of a Play

Equus, Palm Beach Dramaworks
Indecent, Palm Beach Dramaworks
Queen of Basel, Miami New Drama
White Guy on the Bus, GableStage
Wrongful Death and Other Circus Acts, Zoetic Stage

Best Director, Play

Michael Leeds, *White Guy on the Bus*, GableStage
J. Barry Lewis, *Equus*, Palm Beach Dramaworks
J. Barry Lewis, *Indecent*, Palm Beach Dramaworks
Stuart Meltzer, *Wrongful Death and Other Circus Acts*, Zoetic Stage
Matt Stabile, *The Revolutionists*, Theatre Lab

Best Actor, Play

Desmond Gallant, *Be Here Now*, Theatre Lab
Pierre-Jean Gonzalez, *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*, Miami New Drama
Caleb Scott, *Dancing Lessons*, Zoetic Stage
Tom Wahl, *White Guy on the Bus*, GableStage
Gregg Weiner, *If I Forget*, GableStage

Best Actress, Play

Betsy Graver, *Queen of Basel*, Miami New Drama
Rita Joe, *White Guy on the Bus*, GableStage
Elizabeth Price, *An Accident*, Primal Forces
Angie Radosh, *Breadcrumbs*, Primal Forces
Laura Turnbull, *Wrongful Death and Other Circus Acts*, Zoetic Stage

Best Supporting Actor, Play

Clay Cartland, *Gloria*, GableStage
Ryan Didato, *Wrongful Death and Other Circus Acts*, Zoetic Stage
Jay Russell, *Indecent*, Palm Beach Dramaworks
Domenic Servidio, *Equus*, Palm Beach Dramaworks
Leon Thomas III, *One Night in Miami*, Miami New Drama

Best Supporting Actress, Play

Vanessa Elise, *Wrongful Death and Other Circus Acts*, Zoetic Stage
Niki Fridh, *Tar Beach*, Theatre Lab
Margery Lowe, *If I Forget*, GableStage
Mia Matthews, *The Revolutionists*, Theatre Lab
Margot Moreland, *Mr. Parker*, Island City Stage

Best Production of a Musical

The Bridges of Madison County, Slow Burn Theatre Company

Fun Home, Zoetic Stage
Memphis, Slow Burn Theatre Company
Once, Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre
Woody Guthrie's American Song, Palm Beach Dramaworks

Best Director, Musical

David Arisco, *Once*, Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre
Patrick Fitzwater, *Memphis*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
Norb Joerder, *The Pirates of Penzance*, The Wick Theatre
Bruce Linser, *Woody Guthrie's American Song*, Palm Beach Dramaworks
Stuart Meltzer, *Fun Home*, Zoetic Stage

***Best Actor, Musical**

Clay Cartland, *The Pirates of Penzance*, The Wick Theatre
Michael Focas, *Legally Blonde*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
Brian Golub, *Memphis*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
Zach Nadolski, *Beauty and the Beast*, Maltz Jupiter Theatre
Nicholas Richberg, *Fun Home*, Zoetic Stage
Dominique Scott, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
**Voting resulted in a tie, honoring six nominees.*

Best Actress, Musical

Becca Andrews, *Legally Blonde*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
Sabrina Lynn Gore, *Next to Normal*, Measure for Measure and Infinite Abyss
Laura Hodos, *Freaky Friday*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
Anna Lise Jensen, *The Bridges of Madison County*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
Khadijah Rolle, *Memphis*, Slow Burn Theatre Company

Best Supporting Actor, Musical

Clay Cartland, *Rock of Ages*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
Bruno Faria, *Havana Music Hall*, Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre
Cameron Jordan, *Rock of Ages*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
Brendan Malafronte, *Beauty and the Beast*, Maltz Jupiter Theatre
Michael L. Walters, *The Pirates of Penzance*, The Wick Theatre

Best Supporting Actress, Musical

Aaron Bower, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, Broward Stage Door Theatre
Jeanine Gangloff, *Legally Blonde*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
Jeni Hacker, *Fun Home*, Zoetic Stage
Kimmi Johnson, *Fun Home*, Zoetic Stage
Margot Moreland, *Disaster!*, Slow Burn Theatre Company

Best Musical Direction

Eric Alsford, *The Pirates of Penzance*, The Wick Theatre
Sean Powell, *Woody Guthrie's American Song*, Palm Beach Dramaworks
Glen Rovinelli, *Indecent*, Palm Beach Dramaworks
Tony Seepersad, *Havana Music Hall*, Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre

Michael Ursua, *Memphis*, Slow Burn Theatre Company

Best Choreography

Lynette Barkley, *Indecent*, Palm Beach Dramaworks

Jeffrey Cason Jr., *God's Trombones*, The M Ensemble

Patrick Fitzwater, *Memphis*, Slow Burn Theatre Company

Jeni Hacker, *Once*, Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre

Maria Torres, *Havana Music Hall*, Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre

Best Scenic Design, play or musical

Victor Becker, *An Inspector Calls*, Maltz Jupiter Theatre

Paul Tate DePoo III, *Havana Music Hall*, Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre

Michael McClain, *Be Here Now*, Theatre Lab

Michael McClain, *Wrongful Death and Other Circus Acts*, Zoetic Stage

Christopher and Justin Swader, *One Night in Miami*, Miami New Drama

Best Lighting Design, play or musical

Paul Black, *Indecent*, Palm Beach Dramaworks

Kirk Bookman, *An Inspector Calls*, Maltz Jupiter Theatre

Kirk Bookman, *Equus*, Palm Beach Dramaworks

Alan C. Edwards, *One Night in Miami*, Miami New Drama

Cory Pattak, *Havana Music Hall*, Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre

Best Costume Design, play or musical

Jim Buff, *The Pirates of Penzance*, The Wick Theatre

Ann Closs-Farley, *Havana Music Hall*, Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre

Tracy Dorman, *An Inspector Calls*, Maltz Jupiter Theatre

Brian O'Keefe, *Indecent*, Palm Beach Dramaworks

Dawn C. Shamburger, *The Revolutionists*, Theatre Lab

Best Sound Design, play or musical

Lucas "Rico" Corrubia, *Havana Music Hall*, Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre

Marty Mets, *An Inspector Calls*, Maltz Jupiter Theatre

Shaun Mitchell, *Once*, Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre

Abigail Nover, *One Night in Miami*, Miami New Drama

Brad Pawlak, *Indecent*, Palm Beach Dramaworks

Best Ensemble (play or musical)

Gloria, GableStage

Indecent, Palm Beach Dramaworks

One Night in Miami, Miami New Drama

Seven Guitars, M Ensemble

Woody Guthrie's American Song, Palm Beach Dramaworks

Nominations by County

43 Miami-Dade

*37 Palm Beach

*21 Broward

*Primal Forces received two nominations for shows in two different counties. *An Accident* was produced at Empire Stage in Fort Lauderdale in Broward County, and *Breadcrumbs* was produced at Sol Theatre in Boca Raton in Palm Beach County.

Nominations by Theatre

18 Palm Beach Dramaworks
16 Slow Burn Theatre Company
14 Zoetic Stage
11 Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre
8 GableStage
8 Miami New Drama
6 Theatre Lab
6 Maltz Jupiter Theatre
5 The Wick Theatre
2 Island City Stage
2 Primal Forces
2 The M Ensemble
1 Broward Stage Door Theatre
1 Measure for Measure Theatre and Infinite Abyss
1 West Boca Theatre Company

Nominations by Show

9 *Indecent*, Palm Beach Dramaworks
7 *Havana Music Hall*, Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre
7 *Wrongful Death and Other Circus Acts*, Zoetic Stage
6 *Memphis*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
5 *One Night in Miami*, Miami New Drama
5 *The Pirates of Penzance*, The Wick Theatre
5 *Fun Home*, Zoetic Stage
4 *An Inspector Calls*, Maltz Jupiter Theatre
4 *Equus*, Palm Beach Dramaworks
4 *Once*, Actors' Playhouse at the Miracle Theatre
4 *White Guy on the Bus*, GableStage
4 *Woody Guthrie's American Song*, Palm Beach Dramaworks
3 *Legally Blonde*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
3 *The Revolutionists*, Theatre Lab
2 *Beauty and the Beast*, Maltz Jupiter Theatre
2 *Be Here Now*, Theatre Lab
2 *Gloria*, GableStage
2 *If I Forget*, GableStage
2 *Mr. Parker*, Island City Stage
2 *Queen of Basel*, Miami New Drama
2 *Rock of Ages*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
2 *The Bridges of Madison County*, Slow Burn Theatre Company

- 1 *An Accident*, Primal Forces
- 1 *At Home*, West Boca Theatre Company
- 1 *Breadcrumbs*, Primal Forces
- 1 *Dancing Lessons*, Zoetic Stage
- 1 *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, Broward Stage Door Theatre
- 1 *Disaster!*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
- 1 *Dracula*, Zoetic Stage
- 1 *Edgar & Emily*, Palm Beach Dramaworks
- 1 *Freaky Friday*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
- 1 *God's Trombones*, The M Ensemble
- 1 *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, Slow Burn Theatre Company
- 1 *Next To Normal*, Measure for Measure Theatre and Infinite Abyss
- 1 *Seven Guitars*, The M Ensemble
- 1 *Tar Beach*, Theatre Lab
- 1 *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*, Miami New Drama

Triple Nominee

- 3 Clay Cartland

Double Nominees

- 2 Kirk Bookman
- 2 Patrick Fitzwater
- 2 Jeni Hacker
- 2 J. Barry Lewis
- 2 Michael McClain
- 2 Michael McKeever
- 2 Stuart Meltzer
- 2 Margot Moreland

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